

12-15-1811

Letter from John P. Finley to James B. Finley

John P. Finley

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December 15th 1811
Green County Ohio

Dear Betty that James and Flora has great lamentations about their cousin
by the fire side. Excuse scribbling for my eyes are sore & open bad

Brother James & I have only time to draft a few lines to you
it is now after night and the bearer of this letter starts from
this place early in the morning - I received your letter a few
days since and felt sensations of sorrow when reading of your
distresses - The circumstances were truly trying - But being led
immediately to meditate on our Lord and his pilgrimage these words
were applied to my mind "The fowls have holes and the birds of the
air have nests but the Son of man has not where to lay his head
I took comfort and was willing to sing with the psalmist

When satan appears to stop up our path
And fill us with fears we triumph by faith
He cannot take from us tho' oft he has try'd
The heart cheering promise the Lord will provide
I proceeded to read your letter but before I had finished I burst
out into a flood of tears being filled with that love which melts
the heart and sweetens all the sorrows of life An old B. Borden
from Greenbrier being present caught the heavenly flame and we
had a glorious time of praising a precious bleeding Saviour
Oh how precious is the sound of Jesus' name. In this world
we have tribulation but in Christ sweet consolation - When
I contemplate Calvary I cannot complain - When I consider that
Jesus has risen and gone to prepare a mansion of rest for me
I can do his work with great delight - When I think of leaving
a world of sorrow behind and entering into everlasting glory
I am filled with transports unspeakable and what more powerfully
increases my joy to think of dwelling with my blessed Jesus &
my relations in Heaven together through an Eternity - Then let
us manfully contend and fight our passage through ere long will
bid this muddy orb farewell and enter into the glorious golden
city - glory to God for the hope of Heaven - I am still living
at the U.S. expect to continue another year - I have thought
with you that the east of this State would not answer us &
would be willing to spend my days somewhere in this part of
the world if it should meet with your approbation as we
intend settling together - I have recently heard from Father he is
travelling round his circuit has met with some success he was
well and determined to spend his time in bringing souls to
Christ - My land suit is not yet determined & should not
it terminate against me I should not be able to purchase
land soon. Our Attorney says there is no danger

We are all Well & join in sending love to you Hannah & Betsey.
 I am reluctantly constrained to close my letter. Take courage be
 valiant in fight. tell Hannah not to be fainthearted but to put
 on her armour and put to flight her enemies - I am afraid we shall
 not see each other the ensuing year but we must submit & rejoice
 in a literary intercourse. Remember us in your prayers & should we
 never meet again on Earth. I hope we shall meet in the regions of
 happiness Farewell my B^r farewell be of good comfort for the
 God of peace will be with you and bless you
 James D Finley I am your B^r. until death - John D. Finley

Recd by
 Mrs. D. Finley

Recd James D. Finley

Sturges Teacher

Fairfield Council

Mrs.